

## GIVE ATTENTION TO GARDEN PLOT

Likely to Be Most Profitable Acreage on Farm for Producing Food for Family.

## REFUSE SHOULD BE REMOVED

Considerable Increase in Farm Income Can Be Made by Sale of Young Plants in Hotbeds Ready for Transplanting.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Whether it is conducted on an extensive scale to supply the market or whether it is to produce food for the family the garden plot is likely to be the most profitable acreage on the farm.

Any rubbish, dead vines or plants, and even poles and tomato stakes should be cleared away.

The earliest and choicest vegetables are harvested by the man who maintains a few hotbeds and uses them to start his garden. He is able to handpick the frost-free, early vegetables, and to set strong, well-developed plants in his garden at a time his neighbors are planting seed.

**Increase Farm Income.**

The farm income at its lowest point in the early spring, but it can be increased considerably by the sale of young plants grown in the hotbeds and ready for transplanting. Tomato, cabbage, eggplant, and pepper plants are always snapped up when the first warm planting days come, and are easily grown in the hotbeds. A little more space and a little more seed than the grower needs for his own use are likely to bring good profit. Before the ground freezes in the fall is a good time to clean out the old hotbeds.

Unless the soil used in the hotbed is to be exchanged for fresh earth it should be shoveled from the bed and tossed into a pile nearby. The decayed manure from the bottom is scattered over the pile and thoroughly mixed with it to form rich soil for next year's use. Over this goes a coat of straw or leaves held down by bits of board to keep it from blowing.

Some farmers find it convenient to use evergreen boughs instead of straw for the outer covering.

**Hotbed Should Face South.**

New hotbed pits should be dug so that they will face the south, and the location should be selected so that the beds will be protected from cold north winds and into spring storms. Sometimes the earth taken from the new pit is suitable for use in the hotbed, but this is the exception rather than the rule.



Goldframe Shown Open for Ventilation and Hardening of Plants—The Hotbed Is Constructed in Much the Same Manner.

the rule. A few loads of leaf mold from the woods mixed with the natural soil will often form a smooth, rich, stoneless mass which gives an ideal hotbed floor.

The back or north side of the frame is usually made from 12 to 18 inches high, while the south side is about eight inches, so that the whole bed may have pitch enough to get the sun upon all parts. The standard hotbed sash is handled by most dealers, and measures three feet in width and six feet in length. A frame just wide enough to support the sash seems to be the most satisfactory, though wider beds are sometimes used with supporting rails placed at six-foot intervals. A well-painted cypress sash, glazed with good double-strength glass well set in putty should give the careful gardener 12 to 15 years' service.

Heat for the hotbed is furnished by a bed of hot water or manure 8 to 16 inches thick in the bottom of the pit. Permanent hotbeds are often heated with coils of steam or hot-water pipes under the bed.

Hotbeds require constant care to prevent their becoming overheated, especially during bright weather.

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**Seeds for Transplanting.**

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**Cost of Illinois Beef.**

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## BERKSHIRE BREEDERS BOOST BETTER SIRE

Plan Suggested to Increase Use of Purebreds.

American Association Urging Various State Organizations to Favor Exchange of Registered Bore for Grade Animals.

An indication of the active and widespread support being given to the better-sire campaign now systematically fostered by the United States Department of Agriculture is illustrated by a proposal recently made by the American Berkshire association.

This association, according to a letter recently received by the department, is suggesting to State Berkshire breeders' association a plan designed to broaden the market for Berkshires and increase the use of purebred animals on farms.

The association is urging the various state organizations to mail circular letters to their members suggesting that breeders exchange purebred boars for grade boars now being used by farmers, pricing the registered boar at a close figure and taking the grade boar at the market price as payment.

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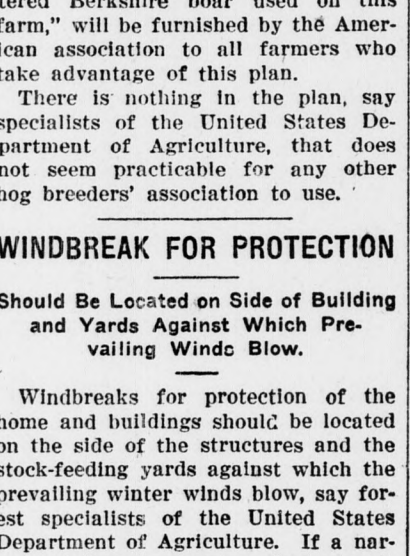
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## STYLES IN SHOES

For General Wear Strap Slipper Has Greatest Vogue.

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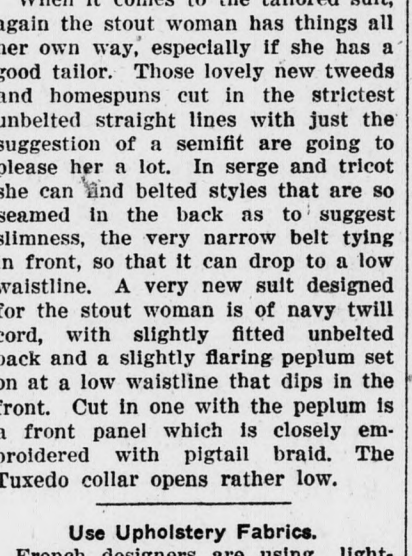
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## THE MARKETS

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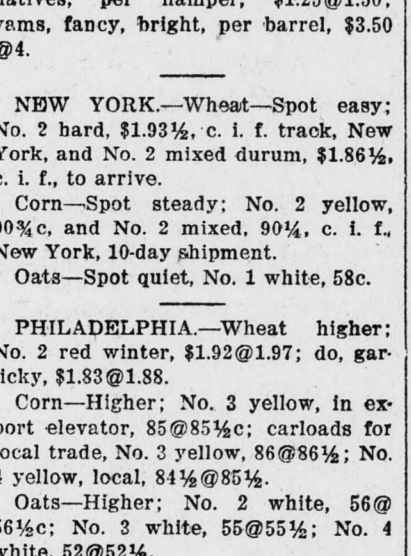
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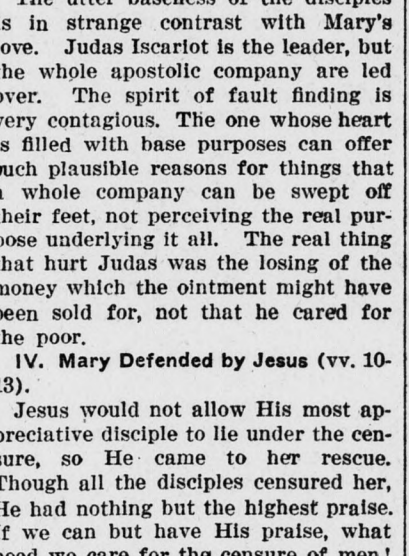
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